

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An abata intermediating system comprising:
 - at least one abata providing device, each abata providing device in the at least one abata providing device for storing abata data that includes at least one of (i) one or more abata images and (ii) one or more abata item images, and for providing the stored abata data through a network;
 - an abata service device for receiving the abata data from an abata providing device in the at least one abata providing device and for supplying the abata data in the form of an electronic document;
 - a user terminal for outputting the abata data through the abata service device or a client program; and
 - an abata intermediating device that includes instructions for:
 - accepting abata data provided from a selected abata providing device in the at least one abata providing device;
 - intermediating a transaction of the abata data between the selected abata providing device and the user terminal;
 - receiving a changed abata image from the selected abata providing device in response to an abata change request; and
 - changing a representative abata image of the abata service device or the client program into the changed abata image.
2. An abata intermediating system according to claim 1, wherein an abata providing device in the at least one abata providing device includes:
 - a storage means for storing purchased abata data for each user in a plurality of

users;

an abata composing means for generating a perfected abata image by combining an abata image stored in the storage means with a selected abata item image;

means for providing the perfected abata image to the abata intermediating device
5 in response to a change request of a user; and

means for providing transaction information of the corresponding abata data to the abata intermediating device in response to a purchase request of a specific abata data from the user.

10 3. An abata intermediating system according to claim 2, wherein the abata intermediating device includes:

an abata purchasing means for

(i) providing an abata data list from an abata providing device in the at least one abata providing device to the plurality of users,

15 (ii) transmitting a purchase request of a specific abata data from the user to the abata providing device when the user purchases the abata data,

(iii) outputting abata purchasing information received from the abata providing device to the user,

(iv) receiving payment information from the user, and

20 (v) transmitting payment settlement to the abata providing device, and

an abata storage means for storing a composed abata image transmitted from the abata providing device for each user.

4. An abata intermediating system according to claim 3, further comprising

25 an abata changing means for

receiving and storing an abata image change request and a changed abata data from the abata providing device, and

informing the abata service device or the client program of the user terminal that the abata image is changed.

5

5. An abata intermediating system according to claim 4, wherein the abata changing means includes:

means for receiving change request information from the abata providing device;

means for inputting a change request item into a wait queue;

10 means for storing temporary abata information into a database;

means for reading the stored change request item from the wait queue and requesting transmission of the abata data to the abata providing device;

means for receiving and storing the abata data transmitted from the abata providing device and restoring the temporary abata information stored in the database;

15 and

means for informing the abata service device or the client program of the user terminal that the abata image is changed.

6. An abata intermediating system according to claim 5,

20 wherein the change request item includes user identification information and abata provider identification information.

7. An abata intermediating system according to claim 5,

wherein the temporary abata information includes user identification information

25 and a temporary abata URL.

8. An abata intermediating system according to claim 5,
wherein the abata intermediating device further includes an abata display means
for providing the abata image stored in the abata storage means to the client program or
5 the abata service device in response to an abata display request from the client program
of the user terminal or the abata service device.

9. An abata intermediating system according to claim 8, wherein the abata
display means:

10 receives abata display information from the client program of the user terminal or
the abata service device;

determines, as a function of the abata display information, whether the abata to be
provided is a formal abata or a temporary abata;

15 requests provision of the abata image to the abata providing device when the
abata to be provided is a temporary abata; and

provides an abata image stored in the abata storage means when the abata to be
provided is a formal abata.

10. An abata intermediating method for executing an abata intermediating
20 system that interfaces between a plurality of abata providing systems and an abata-using
Internet service system or an abata-using program of a user terminal via a network in
order to reflect an abata image, set by selection of a user among various types of abata
images provided from a plurality of abata providing systems, on the abata-using Internet
service system or the abata-using program of the user terminal, the method comprising:
25 building a user information database for storing and managing user identification

information and abata display information corresponding to the user identification information,

building an abata provider information database for storing and managing environment and data of a plurality of abata providing systems;

5 setting a representative abata image to be displayed in the abata-using Internet service system or the abata-using program of the user terminal;

storing the representative abata image into an abata storage means;

accessing the abata intermediating system via the network and inputting user identification information;

10 outputting a list of abata providing systems connected to the abata intermediating system and an abata data list of each abata providing system to the user;

purchasing a specific abata image or abata item in the abata data list, and storing the purchased abata data into the corresponding abata providing system together with the user identification information;

15 composing an abata image with the use of the abata image and abata item stored in a specific abata providing system;

requesting the corresponding abata providing system to change the representative abata image into the composed abata image;

transmitting the abata image change request to the abata intermediating system;

20 informing the abata-using Internet service system or the abata-using program of the user terminal on the basis of the abata image change request that the abata image is changed;

receiving the abata image from the corresponding abata providing system according to the abata image change request; and

25 updating the representative abata image of the abata storage means on the basis of

the received abata image.

11. An abata intermediating method according to claim 10, wherein the abata image updating includes instructions for:

- 5 receiving the abata image change request;
 - inputting a change request item into a wait queue;
 - storing temporary abata information into a database;
 - reading the stored change request item from the wait queue;
 - requesting transmission of the abata data to the corresponding abata providing
- 10 device;
- receiving the abata image transmitted from the corresponding abata providing system to update the representative abata image of the abata storage means; and
 - restoring the temporary abata information of the user information database.

15 12. An abata intermediating method according to claim 11, further comprising:

in the abata-using program informed of the abata change from the abata intermediating system:

transmitting the abata display information to the abata intermediating system in
20 order to display the changed abata image; and

in the abata intermediating system:

determining whether the transmitted abata display information is coincident with
the abata display information stored in the user information database;

determining whether an abata included in the corresponding abata display
25 information is a temporary abata or a formal abata when the abata display information is

coincident;

updating and displaying the representative abata image on the basis of the URL of the temporary abata stored in the user information database when the abata is a temporary abata; and

5 transmitting the abata image stored in the abata storage means to the user terminal, and updating and displaying the representative abata image when the abata is a formal abata.

13. The abata intermediating system of claim 1, wherein the client program is a
10 messenger.

14. The abata intermediating system of claim 1, wherein the electronic document is a web document.

15 15. The abata intermediating method of claim 11, wherein the change request item comprises the user identification information and the abata provider identification information.

16. The abata intermediating method of claim 12, wherein the abata display
20 information comprises user identification information, kind of abata, and abata countenance.

17. The abata intermediating method of claim 9, wherein the abata display
information comprises user identification information, kind of abata, and abata
25 countenance.

18. The abata intermediating method of claim 11, wherein the temporary abata information comprises the user identification information and the URL of the temporary abata.